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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1916.

**A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.**  
By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily  
for The Washington Herald.

**LOOK WITHIN.**  
"He ye forth upon the way—  
Nothing venture nothing win,"  
So the ancients say,  
But I tell you, LOOK WITHIN!  
Master first the things beside you  
Ere you start abroad to face—  
And you'll find what'er betide you  
Laurels worth the winning there."  
(Copyright, 1916.)

The tax on Col. Roosevelt's Sagamore Hill property has been increased from \$750 to \$1,500, and it will be hard to make him believe that Bill Barnes didn't have a hand in it.

A substitute for the Aqueduct Bridge bill is being prepared just to show that there has been no change in the methods that have for years delayed the construction of a substitute bridge.

The pastor who inquired of his congregation how far hell is from Baltimore needn't worry. The transportation facilities from Baltimore to the place designated are probably as good as they are in any other city.

The founder of the Eugenics Society of America is dead. The chances are that if he could have foreseen all the foolish things that would be said and done in the name of organized eugenics he would have died unknown to fame.

Employees of the District Building are organizing an orchestra of thirty pieces and the police force is to have a brass band as an auxiliary. If complete harmony is to be established arrangements will have to be made to silence the anvil chorus.

At a hearing before the Senate Agricultural Committee the charge was made that representatives of the International Harvester Company had left this country in order to avoid testifying regarding the alleged financing of a revolution in Yucatan. When they hear of it they will probably feel more complimented than accused.

By his action yesterday Senator Brandegee served notice on those Democrats who are fighting the President that Mr. Wilson will have Republican support if it is necessary to prevent the striking of the stars and stripes to the Teutonic submarines. And the type of men who are opposing the President are not blind to their political future.

"Maizie says we've got to come across" is a remark which a witness in the Chicago graft inquiry attributed to a woman official of the city government. And she "came across" with the dough all right, indicating that the women are quick to grasp the duties and requirements of public office holding when given the opportunity.

It is not surprising to find Senator Hoke Smith leading in an effort to take the international situation out of the President's hands and surrender to Germany every vestige of American rights. Of course his efforts are all in the interest of the cotton planters, even if it is not apparent how yielding to Germany the right to sink merchant ships on sight and without warning is really going to help them.

"The French are too generous in their warfare against the Germans," says an American back from Europe. "They try to make war as humane as so hellish a thing possibly can be, while the Germans regard it just the other way." "Frightfulness" has lost the German cause sympathy throughout the civilized world, but it hasn't helped to win the war, and whatever may be the outcome of the struggle, it will be centuries before the Prussian crimes against humanity are forgotten.

In the time of Julius Caesar and for centuries after his time, the Teutons were among the peoples classed as barbarians by the Romans. But of course that was long before the dawn of kultur and many centuries before the U-boat was invented. There existed, however, as there exists today, a sort of submarine fish called the torpedo. But being only a fish and knowing nothing of progress through barbarism to kultur, he keeps right on giving warning before he stings, just as he did in the days of Julius Caesar.

A theatrical manager says the decline in popularity of the musical comedy is due to the fancy attire of women in public. "You see, in former days," he explains, "men and women went to the theater and saw girls in short skirts and high topped, fancy and brilliant shoes, with radiant stockings, and the dress was a novelty." Now, just watch some of the women as they pass up and down the streets; note the short skirts; observe the brilliant boots and hose." It must be admitted, however, that the musical comedy girls are not being defeated without a struggle, even if they have reached the limit of the law in the matter of "taking off."

**False Economy in Government.**

By Methods more cunning than commendable Representative W. P. Borland, of Missouri, has taken upon himself the taskmaster's duty of worming through Congress a law designed to squeeze from the government clerks of Washington an extra hour of service each day. It is not likely that he will succeed in his attempt, and it will make him a little more unpopular in Washington; but what is much more important, it will win him plaudits in Kansas City. Mr. Borland professes to believe that the legislation he advocates would save the government \$4,000,000 a year, and no one will trouble to inquire where he gets the figures. Presumably he looks forward to the discharge of some 4,000 employees of the executive departments as the result of his endeavors, but of course that doesn't matter, since the days of spoils are over and Missouri would not suffer. Quite likely no saving at all would be effected by forcing an extra hour's work from the clerks, since the government departments are not operated under the rules in force in a shirt factory, for instance. One result to be expected if the Borland proposal prevails is the lowering of the standard of the civil service because, under present conditions of low pay and no provision for the retirement of the aged and incapacitated, almost the only inducement the service offers is in the matter of hours, which give young men and women the opportunity, if not for some form of outside employment, at least for study to fit themselves for something better.

Mr. Borland knows, of course, that while a score of years ago government clerks were very well paid, today their remuneration is below that offered by private employers. In every sphere of industry in this country salaries and wages have been advanced to meet the rapid increase in the cost of living, while government salaries have remained stationary. Most of the great corporations have established pension systems, to provide for employees in their old age. The government on the other hand continues to throw them upon the mercies of the world when they are worn out, unless they can bring sufficient influence to bear, and then they are kept on the pay rolls while others do the work—a most reprehensible and extravagant system.

If Mr. Borland had really desired to do a useful work he would have undertaken to place the civil service upon a business basis, by readjusting salaries and providing a retirement system, so that no one draws salary without rendering service. In this direction he could easily have discovered the way to make the civil service more efficient and the clerks more contented, and at the same time he might even have effected a substantial saving. But it is doubtful whether in such an undertaking there would be any appeal to the voters of Kansas City.

**Senators in Strange Position.**

A subcommittee of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia has reported adversely on the nomination of Gen. Smith for chairman of the Excise Board. The vote was three to two against Gen. Smith and the majority was composed of avowed prohibitionists who represent prohibition States. They are opposed to the regulation of the liquor traffic in Washington and favor absolute prohibition. Their position on the general question may or may not have influenced them to vote against Gen. Smith. But it is a peculiar development in the Senate when the vote on confirmation of an appointment by the President divides on political lines, for prohibition is now admittedly a political question. It reflects on the judicial temperament of the Senators. Gen. Smith's fitness for the office is lost sight of in such a contest. He was reappointed to an office which clothes him with power to regulate the liquor traffic and he is condemned by Senators who do not believe that this traffic should be regulated, but prohibited.

If other nominations of the President were treated in this way, there would be a continual drawing of party lines, and no Republican Senator would vote for the confirmation of any Democrat, and no Democratic Senator would vote for the confirmation of any Republican. There has never been such division in the Senate on such nominations.

If all the Senators should divide on prohibition lines over the nomination of Gen. Smith, as have those who compose the subcommittee he would be confirmed, because less than one-half the Senators represent prohibition constituencies. In such a division the fitness of Gen. Smith for the work of executing the law for the regulation of the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia would not be considered, as it appears not to have been in the subcommittee. The law and not the man to execute it becomes the issue.

It is as manifestly impossible for a conscientious prohibitionist to execute an excise law as it is for a conscientious pacifist to conduct a military campaign. While we have an excise law, the man appointed to execute that law should be a man who would conscientiously try to have the law observed, not one who would try to make it a failure.

When the Senators who are the authors of the present excise law, try to make that law a failure and an excuse for supplanting it with a prohibition law, and object to the man who executes the law because he tries to enforce it in letter and spirit, they cast suspicion on their own legislative progeny. The nomination of Gen. Smith ought to be treated on its merits and not as an issue between the present law and some other proposed legislation.

**A Lusitania Monument.**

Mr. Emlen Hare Miller, of Philadelphia, has suggested that a national monument be erected to the memory of the Americans who lost their lives each of the government of the States, asking them to designate some one to act with others as a commission to receive the small sum of money required, to pass upon plans and to superintend the selection of a site and the erection of a simple shaft.

It is a suggestion which should be acted upon promptly. Those who know Mr. Miller can vouch for his sincerity of purpose. He has merely taken the initiative on a matter about which thousands of Americans feel deeply, and is to be commended for bringing the subject before the public in concrete form.—New York Herald.

**The Margin of Irresponsibility.**

By JOHN D. BARRY.  
In my acquaintance there is a man who prides himself on his probity. But a short time ago, in his business, he did something that was decidedly questionable. When asked by a friend how he could justify himself, he replied: "I consider that I was bound to do what I could on account of my loyalty to the firm that employs me."

A public official some time ago got into serious trouble. He had appropriated funds that he held in trust and it looked as if he might land in prison. In pleading for a parole he made an unfortunate remark to the judge: "I was tempted to do it on account of my family. My wife and two of my children had been sick." Here the judge cut him short with the words: "I've heard this kind of plea altogether too often. Men come into this court and say things that show they believe devotion to their families excuses them for almost any crime they feel like committing. It doesn't." The official didn't secure his parole. He had made the wrong kind of plea to that particular judge.

I know a husband and wife who are very sensitive about what their children shall read. Over the books and the newspapers taken into their home they exercise a rigid supervision. For example, they will not let the children read anything about an execution of a murderer. They are afraid that by the mere reading the minds of the children will be contaminated. Besides, they are themselves extremely distressed by such reports. And yet they are both staunch defenders of capital punishment. Once I shocked them by asking if they could endure going to see a man hanged. Of course they couldn't. I asked them if they didn't feel that, as members of the social organization that maintained legal killing, they did bear some responsibility for it. They said they did not. "It's the business of the State to attend to that kind of thing," said the husband, with an air of finality.

There are women whose husbands are great money-makers in questionable occupations. They share the spoils. Many of them are fine women. Not so many years ago they would have been supposed not to have known anything about their husbands' work, not to have been interested enough to make inquiries. But now most of them know. For women have been enlightened on this subject and many other subjects. Some of those women must suffer a good deal. Some of them don't care. Others take comfort in the curious justification that goes with success. Here, by the way, is a theme for a dramatist. As women grow more and more enlightened, some women are going to grow more and more troublesome to husbands who, in business ethics, are not over-scrupulous.

When corporations developed to their present vast proportions a very interesting psychological phenomenon took place. Personal responsibility absolutely disappeared. The corporations could do no wrong because no one was to blame. Both women and men of high social rating and of personal honor shared in the profits of enterprises that in some instances were related to highway robbery and that were a menace to the community. The public authorities had a hard time trying to meet this condition, getting back to the personal hidden behind the inscrutably impersonal. Thus far they have been only partly successful.

In regard to politics, most people live in the margin of responsibility. It is only of recent years that communities have been waking up to the duties as well as the privileges of democracy. It was because people didn't care, because they didn't feel responsible, that there was so much public graft in our cities. Then a few devoted spirits made an outcry. There were spasmodic attempts at change. But only too often the people showed that they enjoyed living in the margin of irresponsibility—that easy, lazy region, where so much evil was engendered, all the more pernicious because it was so hard to trace.

But there is another side to this difficult matter. Many who are really conscientious, who wish to do right, who detect the corruption around them, would like to hold themselves responsible if they did not feel a kind of despair. On all sides they find their neighbors taking advantage of the margin of irresponsibility, grafting in ways both petty and great. What can they do? Should they sacrifice themselves and those who are nearest and dearest? As a rule they yield to temptation. It is hard even for the high-minded to live above the ethics of their time.

What does this state of affairs indicate? Among other things it plainly indicates that personal irresponsibility is the cause of much of the wide-reaching mischief in our life. If people felt personally responsible for conditions they now sustain they would be panic-stricken and appalled. At once they would start in to do their house-cleaning. In a short time the world would be a much finer place to live in and the average of health, wealth and happiness would be much higher.

**Merchantmen Armed for Defense.**

It is incredible, though reported by shilly-shallying journals, that naval officers have begged the State Department not to establish precedents which might embarrass our use of submarines in the event of a foreign conflict being forced on us, and not to rule that merchant vessels armed only for defense may be classed as anything but auxiliary war types. This is an unfair and unjust reflection on the patriotism, intelligence and training of men who are known to be grounded in the principles of sea war and who have of all Americans been closest in touch with the practical applications of international law.

Naval officers have, on the contrary, watched with a deep solicitude the mortifying position in which the country and its sailors have been placed by the vacillations of the administration. They recognize to the full the villainies of the Pacific submarine pirates, and know with what calculated buccannery these violations of humanity have been encouraged and in what measure such disgraces to the honest traditions of the sea are condemned by natural and positive law. They feel, above all others, the results of a neutrality which failing to connote preparedness and virility, is not only useless in maintaining peace, but more perilous than frank belligerency.—New York Herald.

**THE WASHINGTON HERALD, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1916.**

**SEEN AND HEARD BY GEORGE MINER**  
Special Correspondent of The Washington Herald.  
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**A Turn in the Tide.**  
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A new age of naval construction began the day that extraordinary duel between the Monitor and the Virginia. Henceforth, as the world saw, vessels of war were built and clad with iron upon the principle taught by John Ericsson and the Confederate naval constructors at the Norfolk Navy Yard.

But the revolution could not be wrought in a moment. The Federal authorities promptly made plans to construct some sixty vessels of the Monitor type; but they bought and built craft of every other sort, the while, to make good their investment of the long coast.

Before the close of 1861 two hundred and twenty-six vessels were in commission; 150 were added in 1862, 161 in 1863, and over 100 in 1864. In 1865, over 100, or burned-steamers armored and unarmored, sidewheel and screw; sail vessels, great and small; craft of any kind that could carry guns or make in any way to serve in the difficult blockade.

Confederate privateers and cruisers, fitted out for the most part in foreign ports, stole in and out of the blockade, and ranged the sea with a singular audacity, like the revolutionary craft of the old days of the war for independence; captured merchantmen almost at will, and about all long captured and counted up into the millions; almost swept the sea for a time of all commerce under the Federal flag.

But one by one they were trapped and taken. Even fleet-footed steamers presently found it impossible to run the blockade of the Southern ports.

The coast lights were out; the blockading fleet with no sign of the night through. The best pilots in the Southern waters were likely to throw their craft away by a rush in the dark; and in the daytime the madness to attempt the passage amidst the crowding of the Federal gunboats was a thing of war.

A third year of fighting brought no radical change of fortune in the fields where the armies moved.

Had he succeeded, no man can say what radical sweep of reaction might have been at the North, in the face of his successful invasion, or what decisive advantage he might have won. But he failed, and the tide of war seemed to all the nation to turn.

Tomorrow: The Defeat of Gen. Bragg.

**The Herald's Army and Navy Department**  
Latest and Most Complete News of Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

By E. B. JOHNS.

The Pittsburgh military training camp movement has grown to such proportions that it may develop an army. An association of Pittsburgh students with headquarters at New York City, organized and is now asking for some legislation from Congress.

The matter has been presented to the Senate committee on Military Affairs, and the committee has decided to report the army bill to give the student and business men training camps an official status. Before the Senate committee report is made, the bill will be considered in detail and a report as to how to handle the camps may be requested from the War Department. The House committee has already decided to make an appropriation for the camps, and the Senate committee was about to concur in this, but at the suggestion of some of the more influential Pittsburgh students a bill has been introduced for consideration by which a Federal militia or national reserve could be organized at the next summer camp.

The Pittsburgh students through their officials have informed the members of the Senate committee that they do not care to enlist either in the regular army or the National Guard. They would be willing to give a month or even two months to military training, and would be furnished with the necessary regular army instructors and be trained with the organizations of the regular army. It is stated that the Pittsburgh students would be willing to enlist in a Federal force with the condition that they be trained for a period of a month each year.

This would appear to be a revival of Mr. Garrison's "National Army" proposal. Nevertheless the Pittsburgh students are bringing pressure to bear upon Congress to pass the bill.

If the Pittsburgh students would take a month's field training a year, they would secure more than the National Guard under the present legislation and would be able to produce this emergency force in a much shorter time. The National Guard does not average more than a week's encampment and the maximum army drills amount to from four to six weeks a year. Reduced to days the total training of the National Guard would not be much more than two or three weeks. The advantage claimed by the Pittsburgh students is that their training period is longer and it is all in the field.

The adjutant general of the army received word from the War Department that the transport Kilpatrick with the first squadron Twelfth Cavalry, sailed from Galveston yesterday.

Capt. W. H. Parker, U. S. M. C., has been relieved from duty in Haiti and has been ordered home for treatment at the naval hospital. The nature of his illness is not known at the department.

The naval personnel board is working on some amendments which will permit officers to specialize in ordnance, engineering, construction and law without interfering with their advancement in the line. This is one of the most difficult problems that the board has been called upon to solve. It is recognized that the personnel board as now constituted does not offer any inducements to officers who specialize. In fact, it is claimed that it discriminates against them.

Although these provisions have not been worked out it is understood that the board is inclined to adopt the detail system for army ordnance officers for the navy. The provisions suggested by Rear Admiral Robert S. Griffin, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, for engineer officers, may be modified and extended to cover other classes of officers who choose to specialize. It is recognized that they all work under similar conditions to the engineer officers.

Capt. W. R. Gracie, Seventeenth Infantry, reported at the War Department yesterday.

**New Army Ration Proposed.**  
The military authorities have been advised by the food experts of the Department of Agriculture of the completion of another new recipe for an army emergency ration, upon which the dieticians of the government have been working for more than a year.

Curate-Mal death children. In accordance with Scriptural behest, Al want you to regard me as the sheep-herd, and shall look of you as a mal sheep. Or shall you all know what the sheep-herd does to the sheep?

Dear Kid—Yes, please sir, 'e shares 'em.—Sydney Bulkin.

New York, Feb. 24.—Chinamen and persons familiar with Chinese affairs are repeatedly asked: "Why do Yuan Shih-kai accept the crown offered by the state council if he did not desire to become an emperor?"

I asked this question of Mr. Wang Shih-Yung, who has recently come to America, than whom there is none in the United States better posted on the political and economic conditions in China. Mr. Wang is not only the foremost editor and author in his country, but he is also a sort of unofficial expert on statesmanship and will probably be the next prime minister or something of the kind. He is to China as a combination of Lord Northcliffe and Lloyd George would be to England.

Mr. Wang was good enough to answer my question in detail and write it out in English for me. I take pleasure in giving part of it herewith. It is too long to print in full.

**As Mr. Wang Explains.**  
"Some say," wrote Mr. Wang, "that Yuan Shih-kai desires all things to be emperor, and therefore willing to make any sacrifice in order that he may attain this end. Such statements, however, of themselves should not carry any weight among thoughtful Americans unless there is evidence to back them up."

"When the republic was first established it was generally hoped that with Yuan Shih-kai at the helm, the many conflicting elements seeking recognition in the new government would be reconciled from personal contention, and that political parties would give Yuan Shih-kai a free hand in the suppression of lawlessness and crime.

**Continual Turmoil.**  
"Unhappily, that did not prove to be the case. In spite of Yuan's strong personality, he encountered one difficulty after another, each due to personal ambition, to the factional contentions prompted and promoted by discontented politicians. Scarcely was Yuan Shih-kai's reign inaugurated, and before than attempts were made to wrest power from him, to make him a puppet, and these attempts failing, to create another republic within the Chinese republic, to result, within less than five years, however, Yuan Shih-kai suppressed the rebellions. The rebel leaders fled to foreign countries. From these foreign countries, they generously opened to them as political refugees, these disappointed Chinese rebel leaders maintained a persistent propaganda of calumny, and used their sanctuary as a base for fomenting outbursts in isolated parts of China. The consequence was the devastation of homesteads, unpeopled misery and peril brought upon the heads of innocent persons."

If these things happened within the term of the first president of China, if the central government is continually in danger because of individual personal rivalry, is it not easy to imagine what is morally certain to happen at the expiration of the presidential term, or at the passing away of Yuan Shih-kai, president of the Chinese republic?"

"Probably the very generals whom Yuan can trust would make efforts of their own to capture the presidential chair. The consequence of this would be chaos and civil war. China might be compelled to face a situation even more worse than that which has existed so long in Mexico. But, unlike Mexico, China as a nation might be imperiled by her external neighbors, as Korea was, when she sought to make progress in constitutional development. This fear has impelled the more intelligent Chinese to favor the establishment of a limited monarchy. Undoubtedly it strongly influenced Yuan Shih-kai to accept the crown."

A little colored girl, a newcomer in Sunday school, gave her name to the teacher as "Fertilizer Johnson." Later the teacher asked the child's mother if that was right.

"Yes, mam, dat's her name," said the young parent. "Yuan Shih-kai was named after me father. Her father's name am Ferdinand and my name is Liza. So we named her Fertilizer."—Boston Transcript.

**ARMY ORDERS.**

The following named officers of the Medical Corps will report in person on May 1, 1916, to Col. Geo. L. Lile, Medical Director, of the examining board at the Letterman General Hospital, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., appointed by War Department Order, No. 24, War Department, February 12, 1916, for examination to determine their fitness for promotion: First Lieut. Benjamin B. Ware, First Lieut. Harry L. Dale and First Lieut. Herman F. Duckwall. Capt. Laurence Halstead, Twenty-fourth Infantry, will proceed at the proper time to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and report in August, 1916, to the commanding The Army Service School, for duty at the schools.

Second Lieut. William A. Robertson, Elements Cavalry, aviation student, is announced as on duty that requires him to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights from February 8, 1916.

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The resignation by Chairman Joseph C. Kennedy, Twelfth Cavalry, of his commission as officer of the army is accepted by the President, to take effect February 22, 1916.

**NAVAL ORDERS.**

**MOVEMENTS OF VESSELS.**  
Araux sailed at Shanghai, February 22; Arcturion arrived at Guantanamo, February 22; Coughlin arrived at Delaware Breakwater, February 22; Culam sailed for New York, February 22; Cyclops sailed for Port Royal, S. C., February 22; Daves sailed for Balboa, February 22; Glacier sailed for Tokyo, February 22; Hannibal arrived at San Francisco, February 22; Heron sailed for Portsmouth, N. H., February 22; Heron arrived at Norfolk, February 22; Orion sailed for Norfolk, February 22; Orion arrived at Norfolk, February 22; Wabona arrived at Norfolk, February 22.

**NOTES.**  
The flag of the command of the torpedo fleet, Atlantic Fleet, has been temporarily transferred from the Birmingham to the Melville.

There will be government transportation available from Hampton Roads to Guantanamo and Haitian waters about as follows: As follows, Cuba.

**ORDERS TO OFFICERS.**  
Lieut. (junior grade) W. C. Faus, to treatment, naval hospital, at Annapolis, Md.

Paymaster John Irwin, to Pacific tropical illness and 18th March 21, 1916.

Chief Pay Clerk G. F. Bellert, to Connecticut.

Curate-Mal death children. In accordance with Scriptural behest, Al want you to regard me as the sheep-herd, and shall look of you as a mal sheep. Or shall you all know what the sheep-herd does to the sheep?

Dear Kid—Yes, please sir, 'e shares 'em.—Sydney Bulkin.

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